



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC Grants CenturyTel Request For Competitive Classification In Some Of Its Exchanges

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri Public Service Commission has granted a request by CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC (CenturyTel) for competitive classification for all of its residential services, other than exchange access service, in its Bourbon, Cabool, Cassville, Cuba, Forsyth, Kimberling City and Mansfield exchanges.

In addition, the Commission granted CenturyTel's request for competitive classification for all of its business services, other than exchange access service, in its Branson, Ozark and Troy exchanges.

Under competitive classification, CenturyTel will no longer be subject to price or rate regulation by the PSC for those exchanges listed above. CenturyTel will be permitted to raise or lower its telephone prices at its own discretion, subject to the marketplace. The PSC will continue to regulate quality of service, service termination and other billing issues.

In this case, state law requires the Commission to issue its decision within 30 days of CenturyTel's May 17, 2007, filing. Under the law, the 30-day criteria for determining competitive classification is based upon the existence of two other nonaffiliated entities providing basic local telecommunications service, one of which may be a wireless provider, the other a wireline company providing local voice service using facilities in which it has a partial or full ownership interest.

Based upon a review of the evidence in this case, the Commission found that in the Bourbon, Cabool, Cassville, Cuba, Forsyth, Kimberling City and Mansfield exchanges, facilities-based local voice service is being provided to at least two residential customers by an unaffiliated wireline carrier. In addition, the Commission found that there is at least one non-affiliated commercial mobile radio services carrier providing service to residential customers in above exchanges. The Commission further found that the competing carriers have local numbers available for use by residential customers in those exchanges.

Regarding business services in the Branson, Ozark and Troy exchanges, the Commission found that facilities-based local voice service is being provided to at least two business customers by an unaffiliated wireline carrier. In addition, the Commission found that there is at least one non-affiliated commercial mobile radio services carrier providing service to business customers in CenturyTel's Branson, Ozark and Troy exchanges. The Commission further found that the competing carriers have local numbers available for use by business customers in those exchanges.